GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:139
ANSWERED ON:27.10.2008
SLOW GROWTH IN BSNL
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has registered a slow growth rate during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the factors identified therefor;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding the failure of BSNL to implement certain policy decisions of the Department of Telecommunications in time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken to ensure timely implementation of the Government's telecom policy decisions by the public sector company; and

(f) the steps being taken to ensure growth of BSNL at a reasonable pace?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 139 FOR 27TH OCTOBER, 2008 REGARDING "SLOW GROWTH IN BSNL".

(a) & (b) Sir, BSNL has added 1.65 million telephone connections during the current year (April to September, 2008) as against 1.63 million telephone connections during the corresponding period last year (April to September, 2007). The growth rate of BSNL in the last and current year is given below:-

Period	Status at the beginning of the period (as on 1st April) (figures in millions)	Net telephone connections added during the period during the period (figures in millions)	Growth rate
April 2007 to September 2007	64.72	1.63	2.52%
April 2008 to September 2008	72.34	1.65	2.28%

The growth rate registered by BSNL in the first half of the current year is comparable to the growth rate during the corresponding period last year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

(e) BSNL is signing MoU with DoT every year and its performance is monitored by DoT on quarterly basis. As per USOF agreement, BSNL is providing VPTs and replacing VPTs earlier working on Multi Acess Radio Relay (MARR) Technology. BSNL is also providing Rural Household Direct Exchange Lines (RHDELs).

(f) Order for 1.9 million lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) equipment & 30 million lines of GSM Mobile equipment have been placed to meet the requirement of Fixed and Mobile telephone connection during 2008-09. In addition, BSNL has invited tender for procurement of 93 million GSM Mobile lines to ensure future growth in the next three years.